

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/630,390

Examiner

Gevell Selby

Applicant(s)

MIZUMURA, HIROSHI

Art Unit

2615

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the after final amendment filed on 1/20/06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1, 4, 9, 10-14, 16, 19, 30, 32, and 35, renumber as claims 1-13.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1, 4, 9, 10-14, 16, 19, 30, 32, and 35 are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

In regard to claims 1, 4, 14, 16, 19, 30, 32, and 35, the prior art does not disclose the combination of limitations of the claimed invention, specifically the limitations of:

a view angle correction function which is an operation of moving a zoom lens to prevent a change of a view angle due to moving a focus lens;

at least one of a shot function and limit function;

wherein the shot function is an operation of controlling the zoom from a current zoom setting to a preset zoom setting,

wherein the limit function is an operation of controlling zoom to restrict the zoom settings to a preset range,

wherein the preset range is less than a maximum range of the zoom settings, and the control part selects one of the controls to execute in accordance with a predetermined selection process, as claimed in claims 1, 4, 14, and 30.

In regard to claims 9 and 10, the prior art does not disclose the combination of limitations of the claimed invention, specifically the limitations of:

a view angle correction function which is an operation of moving a zoom lens to prevent a change of a view angle due to moving a focus lens;

wherein the control part obtains from the controller, a control signal for moving the zoom lens to a target position set by the controller according to the position signal

wherein the target position is set when executing a shot function wherein the shot function is an operation of controlling the zoom from a correct zoom setting to a preset zoom setting,

wherein the control part comprises a position signal fixing device which fixes, when executing the control based on the view angle correction function a value of the position signal to a value of the zoom lens before executing the control based on the view angle correction function, as claimed in claim 9.

In regard to claims 11, 12, and 13, the prior art does not disclose the combination of limitations of the claimed invention, specifically the limitations of:

a view angle correction function which is an operation of moving a zoom lens to prevent a change of a view angle due to moving a focus lens;

wherein the controller has a limit function for obtaining a position of the zoom lens and for restricting a moving range of the zoom lens so that the zoom lens does not move to an outside of a predetermined limit position,

and wherein the predetermined limit position is within a range of movement of the zoom lens that is less than a maximum range of movement of the zoom lens,

wherein the control part comprises:

a limit position determining device,

and a restricting device, as claimed in claims 11 and 12.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue

Art Unit: 2615

fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."



TUAN HO
PRIMARY EXAMINER